

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising; nucleotides 3331-3656, 3495-3599 or 3421-3548 of SEQ ID NO: 1 spliced downstream of nucleotides 1-2558 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

3.-21. (Canceled.)

22. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a smooth muscle (SM) α -A promoter/enhancer in operable association with a heterologous polynucleotide, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises sufficient sequence from the first intron of the SM α -A gene to confer smooth muscle cell-specific expression *in vivo* and wherein the promoter/enhancer hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 when DNA comprising the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 is hybridized in 0.5 M NaHPO₄, 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 1mM EDTA at 65° C, and washed in 0.1xSSC/0.1% SDS at 68° C.

23-30. (Canceled.)

31. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22 ~~30~~, wherein the sequence from the first intron comprises the rat AP1-like, Int CArG and GATA elements, wherein

the AP1-like element comprises SEQ ID NO:19 with the following change:

T22C;

the Int CArG element comprises SEQ ID NO:16; and

the GATA element comprises SEQ ID NO:20 with the following changes: G12T, G14A and C18T depicted in Figure 10B.

32. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22 ~~31~~, wherein the sequence from the first intron comprises SEQ ID NO:8 ~~the rat sequence depicted in Figure 13.~~

33. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22 ~~31~~, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the ~~rat~~ CArG B and CArG A elements depicted in SEQ ID NO:15 and SEQ ID NO:14, respectively Figure 10A.

34. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22 ~~33~~, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the ~~rat~~ sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO:4 Figure 12.

35. (Previously added) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 22.

36. (Currently Amended) An isolated ~~A~~ genetically-engineered host cell comprising a polynucleotide comprising a SM α -A promoter/enhancer in operable association with a heterologous polynucleotide, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises sufficient sequence from the first intron of the SM α -A gene to confer smooth muscle cell-specific expression *in vivo* and wherein the promoter/enhancer hybridizes to the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 when DNA comprising the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 is hybridized in 0.5 M NaHPO₄, 7% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS), 1mM EDTA at 65° C, and washed in 0.1xSSC/0.1% SDS at 68° C.

37-40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the sequence from the first intron comprises the rat AP1-like, Int CArG and GATA elements wherein the AP1-like element comprises SEQ ID NO:19 with the following change:
T22C;

the Int CArG element comprises SEQ ID NO:16; and
the GATA element comprises SEQ ID NO:20 with the following changes: G12T, G14A and C18T depicted in Figure 10B.

42. (Currently Amended) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the sequence from the first intron comprises SEQ ID NO:8 ~~the rat sequence depicted in Figure 13.~~

43. (Currently added) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

44. (Currently added) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the sequence from the first intron comprises SEQ ID NO:8.

45. (Currently added) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the CArG B and CArG A elements depicted in SEQ ID NO:15 and SEQ ID NO:14, respectively.

46. (Currently added) The host cell of claim 36, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO:4.

47. (Currently added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises nucleotides 1-2605, 2011-2605, 2011-5342, 3331-3656, 3421-3548 or 3495-3599 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

48. (Currently added) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 22, wherein the promoter/enhancer comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.